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ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1900.

THE Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, the 12th instant, at twelve o'clock, M., in the Dowse Library; the President, CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, LL.D., in the chair.

The record of the last stated meeting was read and approved, and the monthly list of donors to the Library was read.

Mr. Melville M. Bigelow, of Cambridge, was elected a Resident Member.

The business of the Annual Meeting was then taken up, and the Hon. WINSLOW WARREN, Senior Member at Large of the Council, presented their Report.

Report of the Council.

Although the first meeting of the Society in the new building was held in March, 1899, the building was not completed until the Annual Meeting in April, when the President delivered a striking address and gave a large reception. For a year the building has now been occupied, the books, pictures, cabinets, and collections properly placed, and the Society may well congratulate itself upon its attractiveness and convenience. Its distance has proved no drawback, for all the meetings have been as fully attended as they were in the old building, and have been held in a much larger and more agreeable library.

During the year the Society has lost from its roll of Resident Members: William Whitwell Greenough, June 17, 1899; Walbridge Abner Field, July 15, 1899; John Codman Ropes, October 28, 1899; Charles Franklin Dunbar, January 29, 1900; and Edward Griffin Porter, February 5, 1900. Memoirs have been assigned respectively to Barrett Wendell, John Noble, John C. Gray, Edward H. Hall, and Morton Dexter.

The following Corresponding Members have died: Manning Ferguson Force, May 8, 1899; William Scott Southgate, May 21, 1899; Signor Cornelio Desimoni, June 29, 1899; Amos Perry, August 10, 1899; and Charles Janeway Stillé, August 11, 1899.

Resident Members elected during the year are: Robert Noxon Toppan, May 11, 1899; Charles Pickering Bowditch, November 9, 1899; Edward Henry Hall, December 14, 1899; James Frothingham Hunnewell, January 11, 1900; Daniel Henry Chamberlain, February 8, 1900; and Augustus Lowell, March 8, 1900. Corresponding Members elected are: William Cunningham, May 11, 1899, and Simeon Eben Baldwin, March 8, 1900. Honorary Member, George Otto Trevelyan, transferred from Roll of Corresponding Members, November 9, 1899.

The Publications of the Society have been:—

Collections, 6th Series, Vol. X., The Pepperrell Papers.

Proceedings, 2d Series, Vol. XII., October, 1897, to February, 1899.

Proceedings, 2d Series, Vol. XIII., is now nearly ready, of which four Serial Numbers were issued during the year, namely, No. I., March, April, May, and June, 1899; II., October and November, 1899; III., December, 1899, and January, 1900; IV., February, 1900.

WINSLOW WARREN,

Senior Member at Large of the Council.

The following are publications of Members of the Society during the year:—

Publications of the Members.

Charles Francis Adams. By his son Charles Francis Adams. American Statesmen Series, edited by John T. Morse, Jr.

Additions and Corrections to Sumner Genealogy. To January, 1900. By William S. Appleton.

The Family of Armistead of Virginia. Printed for William S. Appleton.

The Massachusetts Bay Currency, 1690–1750; and the “Engraved Plates and the Denominational Changes, 1690–1750.” By Andrew McFarland Davis.

A Century of Science, and other Essays. By John Fiske.

The Dutch and Quaker Colonies in America. By John Fiske.

Proceedings of the Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, 1893–1899. Vol. V. By Samuel A. Green.

James Russell Lowell and his Friends. By Edward Everett Hale.

Salmon Portland Chase. By Albert B. Hart. American Statesmen Series, edited by John T. Morse, Jr.

Source Book of American History; edited for schools and readers. By Albert B. Hart.

Suffolk Deeds. Liber X. Edited by John T. Hassam [with an

Introduction on the Recorders, Clerks or Registers of Deeds from 1639 to 1735].

Contemporaries. By Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

Old Cambridge. By Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

Address by the Rt. Rev. William Lawrence at the Union Service of the Churches of Malden in connection with the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the City of Malden.

Diocese of Massachusetts. Sixth Annual Address of the Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, to the Convention of the Diocese, delivered in Trinity Church, Boston, May 3, 1899.

War with Spain. By Henry Cabot Lodge.

Divine Force in the Life of the World. By Alexander McKenzie.

Letters of Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1838-1853. Edited by Charles Eliot Norton.

Williamstown and Williams College. By Arthur Latham Perry.

Address at the Dedication of the Congregational House, Boston, December 21, 1898, on the Four Sculptured Tablets of the Façade. By Edward G. Porter.

A Brief Sketch of George F. Bemis, of Lincoln, Massachusetts. Being an extract from a Sermon of Rev. Edward G. Porter at the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Lincoln Church.

A Sermon commemorative of One Hundred and Fifty Years of the First Church in Lincoln, Massachusetts. Delivered September 4, 1898, containing Biographical Sketches of the Pastors and some of the Citizens of the Town. By Edward G. Porter.

Address of Frederick Ward Putnam, the retiring President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Columbus meeting, Fifty-first Anniversary, August, 1899.

History of the United States. Vol. IV. 1862-1864. By James F. Rhodes.

History of the Civil War. 1861-1865. Being Vol. VI. of the History of the United States of America under the Constitution. By James Schouler.

Book of Legends told over again. By Horace E. Scudder.

Democracy and Education. By Edwin P. Seaver. Reprinted from the Proceedings of the National Educational Association.

The Diocesan Library, being the Sixteenth Annual Report made to the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Massachusetts, held May 3, 1899. By Edmund F. Slafter.

A Preliminary Treatise on Evidence at the Common Law. By James B. Thayer.

Edward Randolph; including his letters and official papers. . . . 1676-1703. With Historical Illustrations and a Memoir by Robert Noxon Toppan. Vols. III.-V. Publications of the Prince Society.

Samuel Eliot. By Barrett Wendell. From the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Vol. XXXIV.

The Relations of Radcliffe College with Harvard. By Barrett Wendell. From the Harvard Monthly for October, 1899.

The Report of the Treasurer and the Report of the Auditing Committee were submitted in print.

Report of the Treasurer.

In compliance with the requirements of the By-Laws, Chapter VII., Article 1, the Treasurer respectfully submits his Annual Report, made up to March 31, 1900.

The special funds held by him are sixteen in number, and are as follows : —

I. THE APPLETON FUND, which was created Nov. 18, 1854, by a gift to the Society, from Nathan Appleton, William Appleton, and Nathaniel I. Bowditch, trustees under the will of the late Samuel Appleton, of stocks of the appraised value of ten thousand dollars. These stocks were subsequently sold for \$12,203, at which sum the fund now stands. The income is applicable to "the procuring, preserving, preparation, and publication of historical papers." The cost of publishing the volume of "Jefferson Papers" now passing through the press will be charged to the income of this Fund.

II. THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND, which now stands, with the accumulated income, at \$10,000. This fund originated in a gift of two thousand dollars from the late Hon. David Sears, presented Oct. 15, 1855, and accepted by the Society Nov. 8, 1855. On Dec. 26, 1866, it was increased by a gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. Sears, and another of the same amount from our late associate, Mr. Nathaniel Thayer. The income must be appropriated in accordance with the directions in Mr. Sears's declaration of trust in the printed Proceedings for November, 1855.

III. THE DOWSE FUND, which was given to the Society by George Livermore and Eben. Dale, executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse, April 9, 1857, for the "safe keeping" of the Dowse Library. It amounts to \$10,000. The income has been generally placed to the credit of the General Account, in accordance with what was understood to be the wishes of the executors; but in view of the cost of reconstructing the

library room in the new building, it was thought desirable to charge a part of the expense to the income of this Fund.

IV. THE PEABODY FUND, which was presented by the late George Peabody, in a letter dated Jan. 1, 1867, and now stands at \$22,123. The income is available only for the publication and illustration of the Society's Proceedings and Memoirs, and for the preservation of the Society's Historical Portraits.

V. THE SAVAGE FUND, which was a bequest from the late Hon. James Savage, received in June, 1873, and now stands on the books at the sum of \$6,000. The income is to be used for the increase of the Society's Library.

VI. THE ERASTUS B. BIGELOW FUND, which was given in February, 1881, by Mrs. Helen Bigelow Merriman, in recognition of her father's interest in the work of the Society. The original sum was one thousand dollars; but the interest was added to the principal to bring the amount up to \$2,000, at which it now stands. There is no restriction as to the use to be made of this fund; but up to the present time the income has been used only for the purchase of important books of reference needed in the Library.

VII. THE WILLIAM WINTHROP FUND, which amounts to the sum of \$3,000, and was received Oct. 13, 1882, under the will of the late William Winthrop, for many years a Corresponding Member of the Society. The income is to be applied "to the binding for better preservation of the valuable manuscripts and books appertaining to the Society."

VIII. THE RICHARD FROTHINGHAM FUND, which represents a gift to the Society, on the 23d of March, 1883, from the widow of our late Treasurer, of a certificate of twenty shares in the Union Stock Yard and Transit Co., of Chicago, of the par value of \$100 each, and of the stereotype plates of Mr. Frothingham's "Siege of Boston," "Life of Joseph Warren," and "Rise of the Republic." The fund stands on the Treasurer's books at \$3,000, exclusive of the copyright. There are no restrictions on the uses to which the income may be applied.

IX. THE GENERAL FUND, which now amounts to \$50,460.62. It represents the following gifts and payments to the Society, and withdrawals from the Building Account:—

1. A gift of two thousand dollars from the residuary estate of the late MARY PRINCE TOWNSEND, by the executors of her

will, William Minot and William Minot, Jr., in recognition of which, by a vote of the Society, passed June 13, 1861, the Treasurer was "directed to make and keep a special entry in his account books of this contribution as the donation of Miss Mary P. Townsend."

2. A legacy of two thousand dollars from the late HENRY HARRIS, received in July, 1867.

3. A legacy of one thousand dollars from the late GEORGE BEMIS, received in March, 1879.

4. A gift of one hundred dollars from the late RALPH WALDO EMERSON, received in April, 1881.

5. A legacy of one thousand dollars from the late WILLIAMS LATHAM, received in May, 1884.

6. A bequest of five shares in the Cincinnati Gas-Light and Coke Co. from the late GEORGE DEXTER, Recording Secretary from 1878 to 1883, received in June, 1884. This bequest for several years stood on the Treasurer's books at \$900, at which sum the shares were valued when the incomes arising from separate investments were all merged in one consolidated account. Besides the regular quarterly dividends there has been received up to the present time from the sale of subscription rights, etc., the sum of \$297.97, which has been added to the nominal amount of Mr. Dexter's bequest.

7. A legacy of one thousand dollars from the late EBENEZER ROCKWOOD HOAR, received in February, 1895.

8. Nineteen commutation fees of one hundred and fifty dollars each.

9. The sum of \$39,212.65 was withdrawn from the proceeds of the sale of the Tremont Street estate, and added to this fund.

X. THE ANONYMOUS FUND, which originated in a gift of \$1,000 to the Society in April, 1887, communicated in a letter to the Treasurer printed in the Proceedings (2d series, vol. iii. pp. 277, 278). A further gift of \$250 was received from the same generous friend in April, 1888. The income has been added to the principal; and in accordance with the instructions of the giver this policy is to be continued (see Proceedings, 2d series, vol. xiii. pp. 66, 67). The fund now stands at \$2,364.53.

XI. THE WILLIAM AMORY FUND, which was a gift of \$3,000, under the will of our associate, the late William Amory, received Jan. 7, 1889. There are no restrictions on

the uses to which the income may be applied. The cost of the volume of "Pepperrell Papers" was charged to the income of this Fund.

XII. THE LAWRENCE FUND, which was a gift of \$3,000, under the will of our associate, the younger Abbott Lawrence, received in June, 1894. The income is "to be expended in publishing the Collections and Proceedings" of the Society.

XIII. THE ROBERT C. WINTHROP FUND, which was a gift of \$5,000, under the will of our late associate, received in December, 1894. No restrictions were attached to this bequest; but by a vote of the Society passed Dec. 13, 1894, it was directed that the income "shall be expended for such purposes as the Council may from time to time direct."

XIV. THE WATERSTON PUBLISHING FUND, which was a gift of \$10,000, under the will of our late associate, the Rev. Robert C. Waterston, received in December, 1894. The income is to be used as a publishing fund, in accordance with the provisions of Mr. Waterston's will printed in the Proceedings (2d series, vol. viii. pp. 172, 173).

XV. THE ELLIS FUND, which originated in a bequest to the Society of \$30,000, by our late President, Dr. George E. Ellis. This sum was paid into the Treasury Dec. 20, 1895; and to it has been added the sum of \$1,204.06 received from the sale of various articles of personal property, also given to the Society by Dr. Ellis, which it was not thought desirable to keep, making the whole amount of the fund \$31,204.06. No part of the original sum can be used for the purchase of other real estate in exchange for the real estate specifically devised by Dr. Ellis's will.

Besides the bequest in money, Dr. Ellis by his will gave to the Society the dwelling-house No. 110 Marlborough Street, with substantially all its contents. In the exercise of the discretion which the Society was authorized to use, this house was sold for the sum of \$25,000, and the proceeds invested in the more eligible estate on the corner of the Fenway and Boylston Street. The full sum received from the sale was entered on the Treasurer's books, to the credit of ELLIS HOUSE, in perpetual memory of Dr. Ellis's gift.

XVI. THE LOWELL FUND, which was a bequest of the late Hon. John Lowell (H. U., Class of 1843), amounting to \$3,000, received September 13, 1897. There are no restrictions on the uses to which the income may be applied.

The Treasurer also holds a deposit book in the Five Cent Savings Bank for \$100 and interest, which is applicable to the care and preservation of the beautiful model of the Brattle Street Church, deposited with us in April, 1877.

It should not be forgotten that besides the gifts and bequests represented by these funds, which the Treasurer is required to take notice of in his Annual Report, numerous gifts have been made to the Society from time to time, and expended for the purchase of the real estate, or in promoting the objects for which the Society was organized. A detailed account of these gifts was included in the Annual Report of the Treasurer, dated March 31, 1887, printed in the Proceedings (2d series, vol. iii. pp. 291-296); and in the list of the givers there enumerated will be found the names of many honored associates, living or departed, and of other gentlemen, not members of the Society, who were interested in the promotion of historical studies. They gave liberally in the day of small things; and to them the Society is largely indebted for its present prosperity and usefulness.

The stock and bonds held by the Treasurer as investments on account of the above-mentioned funds are as follows: \$10,000 in the five per cent mortgage bonds of the Chicago and West Michigan Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the four per cent bonds of the Rio Grande Western Railroad Co.; \$9,000 in the four per cent bonds of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the five per cent gold bonds of the Cincinnati, Dayton, and Iron-ton Railroad Co.; \$500 in the new four per cent mortgage bonds of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fé Railroad Co.; \$2,000 in the adjustment four per cent bonds, and thirty-three shares of the preferred stock of the same corporation, received in exchange for the bonds of said corporation heretofore held by the Treasurer; \$11,000 in the five per cent collateral trust bonds of the Chicago Junction Railways and Union Stock Yards Co.; \$10,000 in the new five per cent bonds of the Oregon Short Line Railroad Co.; \$30,000 in the five per cent mortgage bonds of the Metropolitan Street Railway Co. of Kansas City; \$12,000 in the five per cent bonds of the Lewiston-Concord Bridge Co.; \$6,000 in the four and one half per cent bonds of the Boston and Maine Railroad Co.; fifty shares in the Merchants' National Bank of Boston; fifty shares in the State

National Bank of Boston; fifty shares in the National Bank of Commerce of Boston; fifty shares in the National Union Bank of Boston; twenty-five shares in the National Shawmut Bank of Boston; fifty shares in the Second National Bank of Boston; thirty-five shares in the Boston and Albany Railroad Co.; twenty-five shares in the Old Colony Railroad Co.; twenty-five shares in the preferred stock of the Fitchburg Railroad Co.; one hundred shares in the preferred stock of the Chicago Junction Railways and Union Stock Yards Co.; five shares in the Cincinnati Gas-Light and Coke Co.; five shares in the Boston Real Estate Trust (of the par value of \$1,000); five shares in the State Street Exchange; and three shares in the Pacific Mills (of the par value of \$1,000).

The following abstracts and the trial balance show the present condition of the several accounts:—

CASH ACCOUNT.

1899.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To balance on hand		\$27,505.80
1900.			
March 31.	„ receipts as follows:—		
	General Account	2,527.91	
	Consolidated Income	8,707.78	
	Income of Richard Frothingham Fund	71.40	
	General Fund	450.00	
	Investments	10,305.00	
	Ellis Fund	629.35	
		<u>\$50,197.24</u>	
March 31.	To balance brought down		\$410.28

1900.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By payments as follows:—		
	Investments	\$2,100.00	
	Income of Ellis Fund	34.77	
	Income of Savage Fund	327.59	
	Income of William Winthrop Fund	51.25	
	Income of Dowse Fund	81.76	
	Income of W. Amory Fund	1,585.72	
	Income of E. B. Bigelow Fund	11.25	
	Income of Peabody Fund	1,245.67	
	Income of Appleton Fund	67.00	
	Consolidated Income	6.27	
	Real Estate	33,714.04	
	General Account	10,561.64	
	„ balance on hand	410.28	
		<u>\$50,197.24</u>	

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

1899.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$8,356.14	
1900.			
March 31.	„ sundry charges and payments :—		
	Salaries of Librarian's Assistants	3,441.50	
	Services of Janitor	875.00	
	Printing and binding	183.30	
	Stationery and postage	80.32	
	Light	51.62	
	Water	127.75	
	Coal and Wood	602.00	
	Historical Manuscripts Committee	127.15	
	Miscellaneous expenses	318.93	
	Editing publications of the Society	2,000.00	
	Storage	202.20	
	Rugs, carpets, chairs, etc.	485.20	
	Expenses of moving	761.70	
	Expenses at opening of new building	80.67	
	Fitting up book shelves, etc.	1,224.30	
		<u>\$18,917.78</u>	
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$9,045.73	

1900.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By sundry receipts :—		
	Interest	\$297.05	
	Income of General Fund	2,484.40	
	Income of Ellis Fund	4,859.74	
	Admission Fees	150.00	
	Assessments	770.00	
	Sales of publications	891.16	
	For printing	41.25	
	For carting	2.65	
	On account of expenses for maintenance, etc.	375.80	
	„ balance carried forward	9,045.73	
		<u>\$18,917.78</u>	

Income of General Fund.

1900.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To amount placed to credit of General Account	<u>\$2,484.40</u>	
1900.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income	<u>\$2,484.40</u>	

Income of Ellis Fund.

DEBITS.

1900.		
March 31.	To amount paid for storage, etc.	\$34.77
	„ balance carried to General Account	4,859.74
		<u>\$4,894.51</u>

CREDITS.

1899.		
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$3,375.65
1900.		
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	1,518.86
		<u>\$4,894.51</u>

Income of William Winthrop Fund.

DEBITS.

1900.		
March 31.	To amount paid for binding	\$51.25
	„ balance carried forward	536.19
		<u>\$587.44</u>

CREDITS.

1899.		
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$438.42
1900.		
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	149.02
		<u>\$587.44</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$536.19

Income of William Amory Fund.

DEBITS.

1900.		
March 31.	To amount paid for printing	\$1,585.72
	„ balance carried forward	111.89
		<u>\$1,697.61</u>

CREDITS.

1899.		
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$1,548.59
1900.		
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	149.02
		<u>\$1,697.61</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$111.89

Income of E. B. Bigelow Fund.

1900.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To amount paid for books	\$11.25	
	„ balance carried forward	390.54	
			<u>\$401.79</u>
1899.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$302.43	
1900.			
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	99.36	
			<u>\$401.79</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$390.54	

Income of Peabody Fund.

1900.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To amount paid for printing and binding	\$1,245.67	
	„ balance carried forward	911.33	
			<u>\$2,157.00</u>
1899.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$1,058.02	
1900.			
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	1,098.98	
			<u>\$2,157.00</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$911.33	

Income of Savage Fund.

1900.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To amount paid for books	\$327.59	
	„ balance carried forward	199.30	
			<u>\$526.89</u>
1899.		CREDITS.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$228.84	
1900.			
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	298.05	
			<u>\$526.89</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down	\$199.30	

Income of Richard Frothingham Fund.

CREDITS.

1899.		
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$388.22
1900.		
March 31.	„ copyright received	71.40
	„ proportion of consolidated income	149.02
		<u>\$608.64</u>
March 31.	By amount brought down	\$608.64

Income of Dowse Fund.

DEBITS.

1899.		
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$512.95
1900.		
March 31.	„ amount paid for refurnishing room	81.76
		<u>\$594.71</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$97.95

CREDITS.

1900.		
March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income	\$496.76
	„ balance carried forward	97.95
		<u>\$594.71</u>

TRIAL BALANCE.

DEBITS.

Cash	\$410.28
Investments	172,224.60
Real Estate	96,651.22
Coupon Scrip	850.00
General Account	9,045.73
Income of Dowse Fund	97.95
	<u>\$279,279.78</u>

CREDITS.

Building Account	\$64,067.54
Ellis House	25,000.00
Appleton Fund	12,203.00
Dowse Fund	10,000.00
Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	10,000.00
Peabody Fund	22,123.00
Savage Fund	6,000.00
Erastus B. Bigelow Fund	2,000.00
William Winthrop Fund	3,000.00
Carried forward	<u>\$154,393.54</u>

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$154,393.54
Richard Frothingham Fund	3,000.00
General Fund	50,460.62
Anonymous Fund	2,364.53
William Amory Fund	3,000.00
Lawrence Fund	3,000.00
Robert C. Winthrop Fund	5,000.00
Waterston Publishing Fund	10,000.00
Ellis Fund	31,204.06
Lowell Fund	3,000.00
Income of Peabody Fund	911.83
Income of Savage Fund	199.80
Income of Lowell Fund	382.06
Income of Appleton Fund	3,348.68
Income of William Winthrop Fund	536.19
Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	2,741.12
Income of Richard Frothingham Fund	608.64
Income of William Amory Fund	111.89
Income of E. B. Bigelow Fund	390.54
Income of Lawrence Fund	845.52
Income of Robert C. Winthrop Fund	1,260.59
Income of Waterston Publishing Fund	2,521.17
	<hr/>
	\$279,279.78
	<hr/>

As the accounts for the erection of the new building have not been finally adjusted, a full statement of its cost must be deferred till a later opportunity. It seems desirable, however, to state that the cost of the land was \$53,500; and that up to the present time there has been paid on account of the building the sum of \$139,871.03.

The arrangement of book shelves in the room over the Dowse Library and in the room set apart for the reception of the Waterston Library is not intended to be permanent, and the cost of the temporary fitting up of those rooms has therefore been charged to the expenses of the current year.

In closing the accounts of the year the whole of the balance to the credit of the Income of the Ellis Fund has been transferred to the General Account. This balance represents the net accumulations of income since the principal of the fund was received by the Treasurer December 20, 1895.

The income from the invested funds during the year was a little less than 5 per cent.

CHARLES C. SMITH, *Treasurer.*

Boston, March 31, 1900.

Report of the Auditing Committee.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, as made up to March 31, 1900, have attended to that duty, and report that they find them correctly kept and properly vouched; that the securities held by the Treasurer for the several funds correspond with the statement in his Annual Report; that the balance of cash on hand is satisfactorily accounted for; and that the Trial Balance is accurately taken from the Ledger.

GEORGE B. CHASE,
JAMES F. HUNNEWELL, } *Committee.*

Boston, April 7, 1900.

Mr. JAMES F. HUNNEWELL from the Auditing Committee said that he had made a careful estimate of the market value of the securities held by the Treasurer for the invested funds of the Society, and that they were worth about nine per cent more than the sum at which they stand on the books.

The Librarian then read his Report as follows:—

Report of the Librarian.

A few days before the Annual Meeting of last year, a cabinet for the reception of the Winthrop manuscripts was placed in the upper hall of the building, where it now forms a companion piece to the Parkman cabinet. It is made of quartered oak, and in its style is allied to the Colonial period, and was the gift of our associate Mr. Robert C. Winthrop, Jr.

During the first week in November last the library of the late Rev. Robert C. Waterston was received, accompanied by a card catalogue of the same. The books are not as yet arranged, as it is proposed to keep them in a special room in accordance with the conditions of the bequest; and it is thought that this will be done during the coming summer.

A beginning has been made in cataloguing the Ellis Library, and the work is progressing as fast as circumstances will allow. Many duplicates have been found in the collection, and such books either have been sold or will be, or exchanged for other volumes.

In my last Annual Report I alluded to the recent accession of Mr. Winsor's bequest; but this was so fully described in the Proceedings of the June meeting, that I now omit further notice of it.

In the following enumeration of the state of the Library, I have not included the Jefferson manuscripts, which were given by our associate Mr. Coolidge, on June 9, 1898, as they are in the hands of a committee, and now in process of publication.

During the year there have been added to the Library:—

Books	767
Pamphlets	1,192
Unbound volumes of newspapers	29
Bound volumes of newspapers	2
Broadsides	31
Maps	141
Manuscripts	26
Bound volumes of manuscripts	4
Portfolios of maps	10

In all . . . 2,202

Of the books added, 603 have been given, 98 bought, and 72 by binding. Of the pamphlets added, 947 have been given, 242 bought, and 3 have been procured by exchange.

From the income of the Savage Fund there have been bought 94 volumes, 242 pamphlets, 4 unbound volumes of newspapers, 19 broadsides, and 1 map; and 26 volumes, containing 151 pamphlets, have been bound.

From the income of the William Winthrop Fund, 46 volumes, containing 222 pamphlets, have been bound.

Of the books added to the Rebellion Department, 59 have been given, and 62 bought; and of the pamphlets added, 8 have been given, and 70 bought. There are now in the collection 2,544 volumes, 5,004 pamphlets, 817 broadsides, and 105 maps.

In the collection of manuscripts there are 909 volumes, 192 unbound volumes, 97 pamphlets with manuscript notes, and 7,551 manuscripts.

The Library contains at the present time about 41,800 volumes; and this enumeration includes the files of bound newspapers, bound manuscripts, and the Dowse Collection.

The number of pamphlets, including duplicates, is 102,771 ; and the number of broadsides, including duplicates, is 4,037.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. GREEN,

April 12, 1900.

Librarian.

The Cabinet-keeper's Report was then presented : —

Report of the Cabinet-keeper.

Considerable progress has been made during the year in arranging the Cabinet and providing for the display of its contents. It has not been easy, however, without considerable experiment to decide how this could best be done, and so, while plans have been made for fitting up the room which promise well for the future, it has seemed best to move slowly, and to utilize for the present such furniture as we have.

The larger pictures have been hung to show to advantage, and means provided by which the smaller pictures as well as engravings and photographs may be displayed.

The warning of my predecessor, given five years ago, that "if the Society expects to receive any rich accessions to its Cabinet, it must prove its title thereto by allowing the public, under proper rules, to inspect its treasures, and by showing an intelligent method and care for their preservation and display," has been kept in mind, and before long we shall be in a position to invite gifts with the assurance that they will be carefully preserved and intelligently exhibited.

Members of the Society who have articles of historic value which they are willing to deposit in the Cabinet for exhibition are invited to do so, and if they have knowledge of such articles in the possession of others, will do a service by inducing the owners, if unwilling to add them to our collection, to deposit them with us, where they can be seen and enjoyed by the public.

A large portion of the silver left us by our late President, Dr. Ellis, has been disposed of, and the proceeds turned over to the Treasurer ; but there still remains considerable to be sold when it can be done for the benefit of the Society.

The attempt has been made lately to complete the collection of likenesses of members of the Society, of which about

twenty-five are lacking. Many gentlemen have responded to a request recently sent out, and it is hoped that before long a response will be received from all who have not made it.

During the year the following gifts to the Cabinet have been received, all of which were noted at the time of their reception : —

A manuscript copy of a bill, December 10, 1690. Given by Robert C. Winthrop, Jr.

A bust, in plaster, of William W. Greenough, by Richard Greenough. Given by the Family of William W. Greenough.

A photograph, by Butler, New York, of Margaret Pyncheon Keeler (b. 1756; d. 1833), taken from a portrait, by Frothingham in 1830, in the possession of Mrs. George Eyland, of Brooklyn. Her mother, Mary, was daughter of Rev. John Cotton, of Newton. Given by Mrs. Mary Newbury Adams, of Dubuque, Iowa.

A half-tone group of the Supreme Court Bench of Rhode Island, and one of the Supreme Court of Connecticut. Given by Clark Bell, of New York.

A silver medal of the Columbian Order, instituted in 1789, now known as Tammany Hall; and a silver plate bearing a design, of the same order, probably intended to be worn at the crossing of two belts on the breast. Given by William S. Appleton.

An etching by S. L. Savage issued by "The Iconographic Society," Boston, 1898, No. 1, "Old State House, Boston, 1880"; and an etching by S. L. S., of the same Society, No. 2, "Park Street Church, Boston, 1870," both taken on Japan paper. Given by James F. Hunnewell.

A framed photograph of Hon. William Gray (b. 1750; d. 1825), Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts, 1810-11. Given by his grandson Rev. Horatio Gray.

A half-tone reproduction of a lithographic view of "The Siege of Louisbourg," from a drawing made on the spot by Capt. Thomas Davies, 1758; and a photograph of three of the best casemates at present remaining within the ruins of the old fortress of Louisbourg. Given by Rev. Edward G. Porter.

A photograph, by Rockwood, New York, of Fort Hill, the residence of Hon. John C. Calhoun; and an engraving of William A. Courtenay, by F. G. Kernan, New York. Given by Mr. Courtenay.

A half-tone portrait of Pierre Margry. Given by Dr. Samuel A. Green.

A cane bearing the following inscription on a gold band: "Presented Jan. 23^d 1852 in behalf of the Junior members of the Senate by Anson Burlingame to Myron Lawrence the senior Senator"; and a

biographical sketch by his daughter, Mrs. Sara T. D. Robinson, of Lawrence, Kansas. Given by his grandson Frank B. Lawrence.

A Columbian envelope. Received by mail.

A heliotype of Hon. William M. Evarts. Given by Dr. Samuel A. Green.

Respectfully submitted

HENRY F. JENKS,

April 12, 1900.

Cabinet-keeper.

Rev. EDWARD H. HALL read the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Library and the Cabinet: —

Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Library and Cabinet.

Since the last report of the Library Committee, in April, 1896, the library of the Historical Society has been removed from its ancient quarters on Tremont Street, has slumbered undisturbed for two years in a storage warehouse on Massachusetts Avenue, and has finally, within the last year, been transported to its shelves in the present building. Your Committee find it thoroughly rearranged, except for the latest accessions, and the card-catalogue brought well up to date. They also find the Cabinet in excellent condition.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD H. HALL,

ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE,

HENRY S. NOURSE,

Committee on the Library.

The several reports were accepted and referred to the Committee for publishing the Proceedings.

The Hon. WINSLOW WARREN, chairman of the Committee to nominate officers, reported the following list; and the gentlemen named were duly elected: —

For President.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

For Vice-Presidents.

SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN.

THOMAS JEFFERSON COOLIDGE.

For Recording Secretary.

EDWARD JAMES YOUNG.

For Corresponding Secretary.

HENRY WILLIAMSON HAYNES.

For Treasurer.

CHARLES CARD SMITH.

For Librarian.

SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN.

For Cabinet-keeper.

HENRY FITCH JENKS.

For Members at Large of the Council.

MORTON DEXTER.

GEORGE BIGELOW CHASE.

JAMES SCHOULER.

JAMES F. RHODES.

THORNTON K. LOTHROP.

Dr. Green having been elected to fill two offices, thereby reducing the actual number of members of the Council below thirteen, Mr. Warren moved that Mr. James B. Thayer be elected an additional member of the Council, to serve until the next Annual Meeting. The motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Mr. CHARLES ELIOT NORTON deposited with the Society a parchment roll bearing a tabular pedigree of the Nortons of Sharpenhowe in Bedfordshire, England, to the year 1632. It was probably brought to this country by the Rev. John Norton or his brother William in 1635. If any of Mr. Norton's children desire to withdraw the roll from the custody of the Society, they have the privilege of doing so. "In case no one of them should exercise this privilege, the roll shall become the property of the Society."

Mr. Norton said he had received from a correspondent in Georgia an inquiry as to Marmaduke Robinson referred to in Emerson's essay on History, whose name is not in any of the encyclopædias or biographical dictionaries. The reference is as follows: "Every law which the state enacts indicates a fact in human nature; that is all. We must in ourselves see the necessary reason for every fact, — see how it could and must be. To stand before every public and private work; before an oration of Burke, before a victory of Napoleon, before a martyrdom of Sir Thomas More, of Sidney, of Marmaduke

Robinson; before a French Reign of Terror, and a Salem hanging of witches; before a fanatical Revival and the Animal Magnetism in Paris, or in Providence." Mr. Norton said that the two Quakers who were hung on Boston Common in 1659 were named William Robinson and Marmaduke Stevenson, and that it seemed probable that Mr. Emerson had taken a part of each name and made one person out of two. Mr. J. Elliot Cabot, Emerson's biographer, to whom an inquiry had been addressed, wrote: "I have no doubt your explanation of 'Marmaduke Robinson' is the true one. Emerson, however, sometimes invented historical personages, *e. g.* 'Sir Jenkin Grout,' whose epitaph he cites in one of his essays as testifying of a man who, 'if a woman gave him pleasure, supported her in pain: and whoso touched his finger drew after it his whole body,' — or something of the sort, — which brought him a letter from some Englishman who was delighted to hear of this characterization of his ancestor, and begged to know where it was to be found! obliging Emerson to confess it was a pure fiction. Something of the same kind was the Lucifer statue 'in the public square' which was spoken of, I think in the London 'Spectator,' as an existing work of art."

Mr. WILLIAM S. APPLETON said: —

At the last meeting the President, speaking presumably on behalf of the Council, asked for suggestions as to the well-being of the Society, as if members were ready to hand over their ideas directly on hearing his invitation to "Stand and Deliver." And because there was no answer, the President, and perhaps the Council with him, may have been surprised that some member, if not all, did not rise and in an off-hand way make a carefully prepared statement of his views on the important subject of the health, if not the life, of the Society, as easily and carelessly as the "vacuus viator" replies to the long-expected question of the Officer of Customs, in a foreign port, "Have you anything to declare, sir?"

There are one or two matters, which I have often thought of bringing before the Society in this connection, and I have now put them in shape. There are two ways in which this Society can and should all the time justify to the public at large its existence, — that is, by the excellence of its publications, and by the importance and use, or offered use, of its museum.

Probably no one feels more strongly than I do that the nearly completed century of volumes published by the Society contains a very large amount of matter of the highest value and interest; but unfortunately there is also matter of which something different must be said. As to the past, however, this is a dead issue. A recent serial, therefore part of the next volume of Proceedings, contains thirty consecutive pages whose valuable matter might perhaps fill five. I hasten to say that this is not the original work of any member of the Society. But of what importance is it to know that a clergyman, even the most famous ever in New England, set down from day to day, "A. M. studyed sermon, sic P. M.," or that such and such a clergyman preached for him on a certain Sunday?

The Museum, Gallery, or Cabinet of the Society contains many objects of value and interest, but it does not receive so many additions as it ought. Much has of late years gone to the Bostonian Society and the Genealogical Society which should have come here; and it has gone to those institutions because, as I think, in comparison with them this building and its contents are an unknown quantity. Our Cabinet-keeper has lately proposed to undertake to be here on two or three days of each week, for the purpose of showing and explaining to all visitors our objects of interest, — a highly honorable aspiration on his part. But I think he could not easily find a surer way of wasting his time, unless his intention were advertised in the daily papers. I know well that for financial reasons we cannot at present think of enlarging the working staff of the Society. But we have now two excellent young men attached to the Society for the purpose of aiding the Librarian in the discharge of his duties. I do not see why one of them should not at certain hours of certain days be ready to accompany visitors over the building, showing our beautiful new rooms and the interesting contents of other less beautiful rooms. This of course presupposes the appearance of the Society in the list of attractions of the city in the papers. I offer and move this vote: "That the Council be requested to consider the question of making this building and its contents better known to the world."

Mr. EDWARD CHANNING expressed a wish that the Publishing Committee would prepare and print, either in the Proceed-

ings or separately, a detailed statement of the contents of the volumes of Collections and Proceedings, numbering nearly a hundred volumes, which can now be consulted only by means of nearly twenty indexes. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Channing for the suggestion, and said that he would give it careful consideration.

Rev. Dr. EDMUND F. SLAFTER said he thought it was extremely desirable that the writers of memoirs of deceased members should append to them a complete list of the publications of the person whose life is there commemorated.

Remarks or suggestions were also made by Messrs. BARRETT WENDELL, HENRY W. HAYNES, SAMUEL F. MCCLEARY, and SAMUEL A. GREEN ; and the various suggestions were referred to the Council.

Rev. HENRY F. JENKS read the following paper :—

Some years ago (in 1877) the one hundredth anniversary of the re-opening of the Boston Public Latin School after its close at the beginning of the Revolution, was celebrated.

Our late associate Ralph Waldo Emerson, who had been a pupil of the School, was one of the speakers on the occasion. In his address he thus spoke of an incident which occurred during his connection with it :—

“Mr. Gould one day informed his school that there was a rumor that the British government was going to send a hostile fleet to Boston harbor, and that a gentleman had desired that the boys of the School should give one day to assist in throwing up defences on Noddle’s Island, and that all who were ready and willing to go should be at the bottom of Hanover Street the next day at nine o’clock, when a boat would be in waiting to carry them to the Island. The whole school went. I went.” I remember the applause and laughter with which this statement was greeted, so incongruous did the action seem with the speaker, who went on, undisturbed, “But I confess that I can’t remember a stroke of work which I or my school-fellows accomplished. Whether the news of this action on the part of the Latin School reached England and decided their government to sue for peace I have never learned.”

I mention this incident because of its relation to a subject I wish to bring before you. Within a few days past there has

been put into my hands a paper relating to the Boston Mechanics of 1814, who worked on the entrenchments of Noddle's Island, which has been furnished me by Mr. Isaac H. Cary, of Brooklyn, New York.

The list is of value, and in it will be found many names still familiarly known in Boston. Appended to the list is a commentary, made in 1882, by Mr. Nathaniel H. Cary, the father of Mr. Cary, then over eighty years of age, giving his personal recollections of many of those whose names appear in it.

Boston Mechanics of 1814.

The book containing the following record was found among the papers of the late Isaac Harris¹ of Boston, who lived nearly all his life, and finally died on North Bennett Street, in 1868, aged over ninety years. It is probable that the well-worded caption was drawn up by Paul Revere, who was the first signer, the writing and the signature being similar, and it is equally probable that the petition was circulated by Isaac Harris, who was at that time a prominent Mast and Spar Maker at the North End.

The book is about the size of an ordinary bank deposit book, with paper covers, and is in a good state of preservation.

The names are entered each in his own handwriting. When the time is not specified, it is inferred that the signer would work as his services were needed.

Caleb Strong was then Governor of Massachusetts. These men worked on Williams or Noddle's Island, building a Fort, which was called "Fort Strong." The boys from the schools who were able to assist were allowed to be absent during school hours. (Mr. Cary's father, Nathaniel H., then a boy twelve years old, remembered going over to the island and seeing these men at work, his father, Jonathan Cary, and his uncles William and Isaac Harris, being of the number.) These one hundred and twenty-one men all lived at the North End of Boston, within a radius of one mile. They were the mechanics and tradespeople of that part of the city, many of whom could not give money, but would give what to them was an equivalent,—their time and the use of their tools.

In looking over these names of the North End Mechanics

¹ Great-uncle of Mr. Cary.

of 1814, we recognize many who are the ancestors of our prominent New England families which to-day perhaps could give money instead of services should a like emergency arise ; but they have reason nevertheless to be proud of their ancestors who built this earthwork by their own toil.

Had the British fleet which was then cruising outside the Boston harbor made any attempt to molest this stronghold, the same mechanics of Boston (headed by Paul Revere) who plied the shovel and pick in building the fort would have defended it to the last man.

BOSTON, Sept. 8th, 1814.

The subscribers, Mechanics of the Town of Boston to evince our readiness to cooperate by manual labor in measures for the Defence of the Town & Naval Arsenal, do hereby tender our services to his Excellency the Commander in Chief to be directed in such manner as he shall consider at this eventful crisis most conducive to the Public Good.

PAUL REVERE, three Days	NATHANIEL LANE 1 day
WM. HARRIS, when not on military duty.	CALEB WILSON
BENJAMIN COOMEY 6 days	ELISHA NORCROSS
JAMES KIRKWOOD	WILL ^M BARNICOAT 2
ISAAC HARRIS	LOUIS LINCOLN 2
WM. D. HILLS	STEPHEN GLUBB 1
SAML ASPINWALL	WM. POTTER
CHARLES WELLES	RUFUS BAXTER
GEO DARRACOTT	A. E. LINCOLN
NATH'L CLARK	DANIEL T. LEWIS
H. HUTCHINSON Six Days	ASA HOLBROOK
THOS. LILLIE	NATH NOTTAGE
JACOB HALL four Days Work	NATH NOTTAGE JR 1 day
N. J. SNELLING two days	JOHN ELIOT
SALMER CLAPP two days	AMOS LINCOLN 6 days
EDW B. WALKER	JAMES ROBINSON 6 days & tools
JOSIAH SNELLING 4 days	J. BRAY 6 days & tools
SAMUEL PRINCE	WILLIAM TOMPKINS
GEORGE ROBINSON 4 days	ZEPH SAMPSON
THOMAS GREEN 4	JNO CHILDS
SAM WINSLOW	THOMAS LEWIS
WILLIAM GREEN	EBEN TUFTS 6 days
THOMAS EDES	JAMES ROUSE
HENRY TURNER 3 Days	JOHN F. TRUMAN 2 days
JONATHAN CARY	MARTIN BATES 4 Days
SAMUEL BROWN	SAM ^L PARKER 6 days
PARKER EMERSON JR	OTHNIEL TRENCH 4 days
SETH LOTHROP	WM. BELL JR. 1 day
	SAM ^L TOWNSEND 1 Day

HENRY J. OLIVER		SAML TOPLIFF tools	2 days
JOSEPH WOODCOCK		W. J. HAMMATT	1 "
N. BRIDGE	1	LARKIN SNOW	3 "
JAMES ARMSTRONG	1	AMOS BINNEY.	Ten days labour
SAML PIERCE	1	ELISHA WEBB	4 days
JOHN M. JENNISON	1	E. LITTLE	2 "
ISAAC POOR	1	JOHN RIPLEY	
THOS AVIS	4	THOMAS WHITMAN	4 ds
JAS WELD 3 men	1 each week	WILLIAM WISWELL	2 Days
D. D. PULSIFER	one week	JOHN LOW	1 Day
NATL CLARKE	2 days	EPHM TUFTS	
BRADLEY CUMINGS	2 days	EBENR RHOADES	4 -
EBENR. ANDREWS	1 day	ROBT LASH JR.	4 days
JOSEPH URANN	1 day	ADAM FRENCH	4 Days
JOHN THAYER	2 days	JOHN SHOLES	2 Days
JOEL TRULL	1 day	JOSEPH ROGERS	3
ANDREW DRUMOND	2 days each week	THOS CODMAN	1 Day
JOHN FENNO	4 days	WM. GREEN	2 days 2 men
THOMAS POOL	1	WM. BELL	
THOMS BROOKS PRATT	1	EPHRAIM SNOW	
THOMAS BADGER	2	JOHN SMITH	
THOS MICKELL	2	WM. C. PARKE	1 Day
BENJM WHITE	4 days surveying	CHARLES BELAMY	
EDWD OLIVER	\$2.50	OTIS FAY	1 Day
CHARLES POOK	2 Days	WILLIAM P. SHELTON	2 Days
EDWD CHESSMAN	2 days	A. L. STEVENS	1 Day
WILLIAM COLLIER	6 Days	CALEB B. MUNROE	1
WM. BURROWS	4 -	W. MILLS	
G. HAMMOND	2 -	JAS HOLBROOK	
THOMAS S. BORDMAN	4 days	GEORGE PRINCE	1 Day
ABIJAH LUCE	2 "	J. B. BARNEſ	
ELKANAH CUSHMAN	2 "	PETER SEAVER	

Mr. Cary says that upon reading over these names in 1882 to his father, who was then eighty years of age, he made the following running comments:—

COOMEY . . . Was a mast and spar maker, having served his time in the yard of my uncle Isaac Harris.

KIRKWOOD . . . Soapmaker, afterwards killed by accident on Long Wharf.

ASPINWALL . . . Also apprenticed to Isaac Harris.

WELLS . . . Mason; used to be Sampson & Wells.¹

DARRACOAAT . . . Ship chandler on Broad Street. My brother John Cary was a clerk in his store. Introduced gas, and the natives did not like him any the better for that.

¹ Mayor of the City in 1832 and 1833.

- CLARK . . . Printer. Lived in part of Darracoat's house on Henchman's Lane.
- HUTCHINSON . . . His daughter tried to commit suicide by jumping off Harris Spar Dock, but was rescued by my brother William H. Cary, with great difficulty.
- ROBINSON . . . Grocer, corner Charles and Salem Streets. Had a tame rat which he could call out of his hole at will to amuse the boys.
- WINSLOW . . . Sexton. Buried all our family who died at that time. Wife kept a small store.
- EDES . . . Baker.
- CARY . . . My father. Mast and spar maker, and lived on Henchman's Lane.
- BROWN . . . Partner of the above.
- WILSON . . . Was a drain-digger, and lived on Charles Street. He was an Irish laborer. When the great fire occurred at Portsmouth, he is said to have wheeled a barrow to Portsmouth with relief, for he was a generous old man.
- LOUIS LINCOLN . . . Lived next to Isaac Harris.
- DAN LEWIS . . . Cooper.
- NOTTAGE . . . House carpenter, Nottage's Alley.
- J. BRAY . . . Major of militia. Had a man hung on his account.
- Z. SAMPSON . . . Mason.
- OTHNIEL TRENCH . . . Rigger and our next neighbor on Henchman's Lane. His daughter died with a fish bone in her throat.
- J. WOODCOCK . . . Carpenter, then constable. Occupied part of our pew.
- N. BRIDGE . . . Attended his night school.
- FENNO . . . Grocer at Winnissimmet Ferry.
- THOS. POOL . . . Sand dealer, penny's worth at a time.
- CHAS. POOK . . . Cooper, father of Naval Constructor Samuel Pook.
- AMOS BINNEY . . . Naval contractor, captain of militia. Lived on Copp's Hill — always full of business.
- E. WEBB . . . Schoolmaster North End.
- E. LITTLE . . . Teacher; very tall, used to call him Dick Little.
- JOHN RIPLEY . . . Was a good Unitarian, and started a liberal school.
- ROBT. LASH, JR. . . . Bank teller in Union Bank.
- ADAM FRENCH . . . Wood Wharf
- CHAS. BELAMY . . . Wood Wharf.

Other remarks were made during the meeting by Messrs. EDWARD CHANNING, JAMES FORD RHODES, ARCHIBALD C. COOLIDGE, CHARLES E. NORTON, and the PRESIDENT.

Hon. WINSLOW WARREN communicated the memoir of the late William G. Russell, which he had been appointed to prepare for publication in the Proceedings.

A new serial comprising the record of the February meeting was ready for distribution at this meeting.

After the adjournment the members and some invited guests were entertained at luncheon in the Ellis Hall by the President.



W. G. Russell

MEMOIR
OF
WILLIAM G. RUSSELL, LL.D.

BY WINSLOW WARREN.

WILLIAM GOODWIN RUSSELL was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, November 18, 1821. Upon his father's side he was descended from John Russell, who was a merchant in Greenock, Scotland, and came to this country in 1745, where he married, in 1757, Mercy, the daughter of Nathaniel Foster, of Plymouth. Their son, John Russell, married Mary, the daughter of Samuel Jackson, and had two sons, John, who married Deborah Spooner, of Plymouth, and Thomas, who married Mary A., daughter of William Goodwin. Thomas and Mary A. Russell had six children, four daughters and two sons, William Goodwin Russell, the elder of the two, and Thomas Russell, who was a prominent lawyer, Judge of the Superior Court of Massachusetts, an active and popular politician, and Collector of the Port of Boston under Presidents Johnson and Grant.

Thomas Russell, the father, was a successful merchant in Plymouth, a man of culture, of most attractive and genial manner, for years an able Treasurer of the Commonwealth, and respected by his fellow-citizens for his high integrity and scrupulous honesty of character. Through his mother, William G. traced his ancestry to Miles Standish, Richard Warren, John Alden, and other Mayflower Pilgrims, so that in his veins flowed the best blood of the New England settlers, combined on the father's side with that of sturdy Scottish stock. From this combination, naturally came the strong practical sense, the keen humor, the executive talent, and the steadiness of character which were conspicuous in his whole career.

His early education was in the schools of his native town, and later he was fitted for Harvard College by the Hon. John Angier Shaw, of Bridgewater. Entering Harvard in 1836, when fifteen years of age, he immediately showed that power of application and quickness of apprehension which gave him an undoubted leadership in a class containing such eminent men as William Sohier, John Pierpont, Charles Edward Buckingham, James Elliot Cabot, and John C. Bancroft Davis.

Graduating in 1840, at the head of his class, he taught a young ladies' school for a short time in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and subsequently at an academy at Dracut, succeeding in this latter place a man whom later, eminent at the bar and in politics, he was to meet in forensic strife, but whose principles and career in life were so singularly diverse from his own, — General Benjamin F. Butler.

He began the study of law in the office of William Whiting of Boston, who had married his sister Lydia, and was then, as for many years later, a leading patent lawyer, and active and prominent in political and legal circles. Completing his legal studies at the Harvard Law School, he received its degree in 1845, after achieving a high reputation for scholarship, and giving indication of future success at the bar by his evident capacity for thorough work, his rapid acquirement of legal knowledge, and his mental force.

After leaving the Law School, Mr. Russell entered into partnership in Boston with Mr. Whiting, with whom he was associated in business for many years. October 6, 1847, he was married to Mary Ellen, daughter of Thomas and Lydia Coffin Hedge, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, by whom he had two daughters, Lydia G., who married Roger N. Allen; Marion, who married William S. Townsend; and one son, Thomas Russell, now a practising lawyer in Boston.

In 1862 Mr. Whiting was called upon to fill the office of Solicitor of the War Department in the administration of President Lincoln, and the whole business of the firm of Whiting and Russell devolved upon the latter; but he did not confine himself to patent law, — the cast of his mind fitted him for a broader field requiring more extensive knowledge of legal principles, and a wider study. It was a time when a lawyer's practice in Boston was less specialized than at present, and embraced every department of the law, and Mr. Russell found

himself engaged in an endless variety of causes, ranging over every branch of the profession, except criminal law to which he never gave special attention. Such a practice was broadening to the mind and calculated to bring all mental faculties into play, necessitating profound study and a quick adaptation of powers, while at the same time giving a wide knowledge of human nature and a readiness only to be gained by practical experience.

It may well be questioned whether a general practice of this nature did not produce better trained and more thorough lawyers than the present specialization, which, however much it may raise the standard of each particular department, eliminates from the individual experience very much of value in the making of a well-rounded lawyer, and which can only be acquired by constant contact with men and affairs, and by the ready application of legal principles in various and widely different spheres of action.

To his long experience in this general practice may be ascribed in part the marked faculty Mr. Russell showed in the presentment of cases, his finished style of argument, and the clearness and cogency of his thought.

He had the rare gift of working easily and steadily with no apparent nervous tension, a power of concentration which enabled him to seize readily and quickly upon the crucial points of a case, and a calm, deliberate, and clear method of delivery which riveted attention and carried conviction by its earnestness and fairness. He was truth and candor itself, courteous in manner, unruffled in temper, conciliatory in the treatment of his opponents, but scrupulously faithful and persistent in his client's interest; determined and firm with his equals, and considerate of inferiors, stooping to nothing mean or low for the sake of victory, but trusting to the strength of the presentation of his case, and the influence over court and jury acquired by an upright and high-minded personality.

Qualities like these inevitably attracted a large and important practice, and his services were eagerly sought in numberless causes which associated him with great leaders of the bar from a very early period in his professional life.

The death of Mr. Whiting in 1873 dissolved the partnership of Whiting and Russell, and he soon after associated with

himself in legal business Mr. George Putnam, whose father, the distinguished Unitarian Divine, had long been a warm friend as well as pastor; this partnership continuing until Mr. Russell's death, February 6, 1896.

During Mr. Russell's fifty years' practice, the Suffolk Bar was at the zenith of its fame, including in its membership such men as Sidney Bartlett, Benjamin R. Curtis, Rufus Choate, Charles P. Curtis, Henry F. Durant, Edward and William Sohler, Richard H. Dana, and others hardly less noted; while upon the bench were Chief Justices Lemuel Shaw and George Tyler Bigelow, Judges E. Rockwood Hoar, Benjamin F. Thomas, and John Wells, and in the United States Court Judge Peleg Sprague. Of the members of the bar, notwithstanding the meteoric oratory of Choate, Mr. Bartlett and Judge Curtis were the leaders in solid attainments and logical power: the latter died in 1874, but Mr. Bartlett remained until 1890, not only the Nestor of the bar, but easily its head; with him Mr. Russell was a constant associate in legal causes, and as the former's advancing years led him to withdraw in some measure from active practice, and to confine himself more to the duties of counsellor in important matters, with an occasional argument before the courts in cases demanding the highest legal learning, Mr. Russell became more and more recognized as his successor in leadership; and this was the more remarkable from the fact that Plymouth was the native town of both Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Russell, and they were first cousins once removed.

Although repeatedly urged to accept a Justiceship of the Supreme Judicial Court of the State of Massachusetts, of the United States Circuit Court, and later the Chief Justiceship of Massachusetts, his love for private practice and a singular distaste for public station led Mr. Russell to decline all offers, notwithstanding the urgent desires of many members of the bar, and of others who appreciated his judicial cast of mind and unusual qualifications for such positions.

Avoidance of all public office was a marked feature in Mr. Russell. He could not have been unconscious of his eminent fitness, and there were many places which his great abilities would have adorned; but he appeared to have a constitutional dislike of everything of the kind, arising not from modesty nor unwillingness to serve the public, but unquestionably from a

strong conviction that the law was a jealous mistress, and required his whole undivided attention.

As a citizen he was positive and clear in his convictions, and exact in the performance of his duties. Through his earlier life he had been a member of the Whig party, and a personal friend of Webster and Winthrop, and of other of its leaders; but upon its decadence and the rise of the Republican party he usually associated himself with that party, although preserving an independence of conviction and action which never recognized party duty as equal to the duty to his country.

He was for some years President of the Boston Bar Association and of the Suffolk Law Library, an active and influential member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard College, a director of the Mt. Vernon Bank and of the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Co., and prominent in many of the social clubs of the city.

In religious faith, Mr. Russell had been brought up as a Unitarian in the First Parish Church in Plymouth, and he remained firm in the convictions of that faith during his life, attending for some years the Unitarian Church in Roxbury under the ministration of Dr. George Putnam, whose concise, direct, and logical style of preaching appealed strongly to his nature, and later the Arlington Street Church in Boston, under Dr. Brooke Herford.

For his native town of Plymouth he cherished the deepest and most abiding affection, spending there nearly all of his summers, and enjoying to the utmost its expanse of woods and many ponds and streams. He was a great lover of nature, an expert fisherman, fond of shooting, and never tired of exploring the forests in the neighborhood with gun or rod, or of searching in hidden nooks and corners for the rare wild-flowers abounding in the region. His social nature brought him into intimate converse with many of those original characters found in the woods or by the sea in the old New England town; he loved to listen to their stories, to chat with them, and in his humorous way extract from them the history of their quaint lives and experiences. He gained to a surprising degree their love and confidence, and was never more pleased than when they came to his office to consult him upon their homely affairs, or stopped him on his drives

to ask advice and narrate their troubles and disputes. There was an element of humor in these neighborly conferences which he thoroughly enjoyed, and while his practical common-sense and sound judgment appealed deeply to their simple natures, the rough and unique wit of their unconventional lives gave rise to countless droll stories and amusing experiences, and was not without value in his business dealings with men.

No one knew William G. Russell unless he had been with him and seen him and heard him on the salt sea off Manomet Point, or as he cast his fly for trout or bass in the streams and ponds, or drove through the balmy pines of Plymouth woods; for then his joyous nature was at its best, his conversation sparkled, his wit flowed free, and the cares and vexations of a busy professional life were forgotten in the invigorating atmosphere he loved so well.

His home in Boston was unostentatious but attractive; he possessed considerable artistic taste, enjoyed the society of cultivated men and women, and his rare conversational powers, his wide information, his clean-cut, witty, and incisive style of talking, and the sincerity of his character gathered about him an interesting and brilliant circle of friends.

To his profession he gave his best thoughts and most devoted study; he was always the lawyer, digesting thoroughly what he undertook, holding always at command the learning acquired from books and from his experience with men, possessing a clear, logical, and concise style, and using his rare mental powers with uncommon quickness and with such power of grasping fundamental principles applicable to intricate law cases, that he exercised a commanding influence over court or jury. While ambitious of success, aspiring as well he might to the highest leadership, he pursued his way with a modest but masterful confidence in his own powers, utterly free from self-assertiveness or appearance of conscious pride. He was a leader by force of his own vigorous mind, abundant learning, and surpassing ability; but he never claimed leadership for himself, and was content to be valued by the intrinsic worth of his high character and attainments. It would not be true to say that he was in the highest rank of advocates before a jury, for he availed himself of no flowers of rhetoric, sought for no oratorical effect, and stooped to no arts to win favor;

his greatest success was before the court, where his keen, straightforward, and powerful arguments were best appreciated, and where he could address himself to the elucidation of sound principles of law and display his wide range of scholarship and just discrimination.

No estimate of Mr. Russell can omit his unfailing courtesy and generosity. He never despised nor ridiculed his opponents, nor forgot in the most exciting contests the obligations of a gentleman. Many who were young at the bar when he was easily at its head, can recall his friendly assistance, kindly advice, and ready encouragement. In the warmth of his heart he well understood the doubts and difficulties of younger men, and was ever ready to yield to them his valuable time and wise counsel.

And so in private life he was generous to a fault, ever the kind friend, adviser, and helper of the world's unfortunates, and though one of the busiest of men, always ready to listen to an honest tale of suffering, and to give of his means or his advice. His charity was of the quiet and unostentatious kind, abundant, but bestowed with the care and judgment of a man accustomed to investigate, and who made it a duty to examine personally into the genuineness and deserving nature of claims upon his bounty.

He was admitted to membership in this Society in 1884; but his attendance was not frequent, and his contributions to its proceedings rare. Though interested and well informed in historical matters, his taste was not for investigations of that nature, nor was time for such studies at his command. His value to the Society was rather that of a man whose judgment could always be relied upon, and whose personal standing and character in the community added strength to its roll of members.

He died in the full maturity of his powers; but his fame, like that of most great lawyers, must largely rest upon the impress he made upon the mind and memory of those who had known him at the bar or in private life, who had availed themselves of his counsel, and had witnessed his constant and well-deserved success in important legal causes. The only criticism made of his practice was the highest praise, for it was often said of him that his delight was greater in settling complicated cases than in winning them by conflict. Thoroughly

equipped as he was for the most prolonged and bitter contest, he ever preferred to harmonize and adjust; and his tact, good nature, and professional skill secured for him the grandest triumphs in the interests of peace between contending parties.

He bore the deserved reputation of a man of the strictest integrity, winning during his long practice the confidence of the business community to a remarkable degree, reaching his threescore and ten years beloved, trusted, and respected, and mourned as he passed from earth as the highest type of an honest, successful, able, and learned lawyer.